

March 14, 2012, 12:04 pm, eastern

State of Indiana Response to Tornado Activity in Southeastern Indiana

***New information in bold italics*

STATUS UPDATE

Disaster Food Stamp Assistance: Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) received approval from USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to issue disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to qualified victims living in specific zip codes in Clark, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott, Warrick and Washington Counties. Disaster victims living in designated zip codes who are not usually eligible for SNAP may temporarily qualify if their home or belongings were damaged or destroyed, and they have unreimbursed disaster-related expenses, OR if they have lost income, food or money as a result of the severe storms and tornados. To view a complete list of approved zip codes, to online to: www.in.gov/gov/disasterrecovery.htm

Disaster food stamps applications will be accepted Wednesday, 3/14 – Monday, 3/19, 8 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the One Stop Shop for Tornado Disaster Relief (OSS). Applications will also be accepted at FSSA Division of Family Resources (DFR) offices located in the federal disaster counties (during normal business hours). Applications must be made by 3/22.

One-Day Pekin OSS: A one-day only OSS will be set up in Pekin on Friday, March 16, 2012. The OSS will be located at 210 E. Timber Blvd., Pekin, IN 47165. The hours will be 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WEATHER UPDATE: The National Weather Service predicts thunderstorms and scattered showers for most of Southern Indiana on Wednesday evening.

FRAUD WARNING: Beware of individuals impersonating American Red Cross (ARC) disaster relief staff. There are reports of callers asking for \$25 for ARC debris removal services. The ARC never asks survivors to pay for disaster relief services. If you are asked to pay for ARC debris removal services, please contact your local law enforcement agency. Residents in need of help removing debris should call 2-11 and may contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-696-3873 to learn about their programs.

Volunteer Activities: Indiana Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (INVOAD) leaders have registered 4967 volunteers who have worked an estimated 37,252 hours, as of 3/13. (Note: this tally includes only those registered at the Volunteer Resource Center, not other local volunteers, American Red Cross and Salvation Army.

SELLERSBURG ONE STOP SHOP (OSS):

- Open 7 days a week, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. at Ivy Tech campus near I-65 and highway 311 (I-65 Exit 9). The OSS is expected to remain open at least through Saturday, 3/17. Tetanus shots are available at the One Stop Shop in Sellersburg.

SELLERSBURG DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER (DRC): The Sellersburg DRC located at the Ivy Tech campus at I-65 and Hwy 311(I-65 exit 9) in Sellersburg, IN, will remain open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week until further notice. The Sellersburg DRC is co-located with the Sellersburg OSS.

DRC staff can answer questions about registration for federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation; and provide information and contacts for other programs. Representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be on hand to answer questions about SBA low interest disaster loans.

Indiana residents living nearer to Kentucky may go to a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center located in Kentucky. A person living in an affected area may go to any FEMA DRC site.

You do NOT need to apply in person for FEMA aid. Homeowners, renters and business owners affected by the storms are encouraged to register for assistance online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling the telephone registration line, 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) which is available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. Survivors are encouraged to register prior to visiting a DRC.

COUNTY-BY-COUNTY UPDATE

CLARK

- ***Debris removed from Clark County to date is 1,667 loads.*** This number reflects only what the Indiana Department of Transportation has hauled. Private companies are not included in this tally.
- **Curfew** still in effect for Nabb, Henryville and Marysville from 6:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.
- **Traffic** in Henryville remains restricted to help with debris removal
- **State Road 160 EB** (Clark County) west of Henryville at I-65 is open to local traffic only
- **Clark Memorial Medical Center** in Henryville at 314 S. Ferguson St. is open. It is located across the street from the Henryville Fire Station. First aid and tetanus shots are available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Recovered **unidentified photos** and other items may be taken to the Clark County Recorder: 501 East Court Avenue, M-F, 8:30-4:30, 812-285-6235
- Information for **farmers** needing assistance with debris removal and fence repair is available from the Clark County USDA FSA: 812-256-2330
- **Donations are being distributed** at:
 - Henryville: St. Francis Catholic Church
 - Marysville Hardware Store, 10206 Indiana 3, Marysville, 812-293-3777

- New Washington Fire Dept., 23511 Indiana 62, New Washington, 812-293-3311
 - Charlestown High School, 1 Pirate Place, Charlestown, 812-256-3328
 - Underwood: Southeast Country Lake Christian Retreat, 815 Country Lake Road
- Clark County is waiving **building permit** fees, but only in areas affected by the severe weather and tornadoes. Homeowners still need to apply and receive a permit before construction can begin, but the permits will be issued at no cost. The fee still applies for home owners using a contractor or work being done outside the affected areas.
- **Debris Disposal Guidance:**
 - Residents are advised to separate and prepare trash for proper disposal:
 - Household waste (including trash, food, paper, etc.) should be put in trash bags or cans and left at the curb.
 - Construction and demolition waste (such as shingles, treated lumber, glass, etc.), and heavy trash items such as furniture, carpet, drywall and large plastic toys should be taken to the landfill or left on the curb (separated from the household trash).
 - Appliances, televisions, household hazardous waste, and household cleaners can be delivered to the receptacles at the Furnish Mini Storage, located at the corner of State Road 31 & Railroad St. or placed curbside, apart from other debris. Clark County Solid Waste Management District (9208 Hwy. 62, Charleston) is also collecting electronics.
 - Green waste (trees/limbs/leaves) disposal sites for:
 - Charlestown: Earth First, 5511 State Road 403. Call 812.282.9866.
 - Borden: Koetter & Smith, Inc., 8991 Lewis Smith Road. Call 812.923.5111.

JEFFERSON

- **All roads are open.**
- Red Cross will provide **meals** and snacks during daytime hours for the remainder of the week.
- The health department will provide **tetanus vaccinations** on an as-needed basis.
- **Donations are being distributed** at:
 - Chelsea Church, 6231 S. State Road 62, Lexington, 812-866-5927
 - Chelsea General Store, 5975 S. State Road 62, Lexington, 812-866-3500
- Jefferson County residents seeking a **property reassessment** should come into the office, 300 East Main Street, Room 102, Madison, IN 47250 or go online to complete a form at <http://jeffersoncounty.in.gov/assessor/index.php>
- Recovered **unidentified photos** and other items may be taken to the Jefferson County Recorder: 300 East Main, Madison, M-F, 8-4, 812-265-8903
- **Farmers** seeking assistance with debris removal and fence repairs may get information from the Jefferson County USDA FSA: 812-273-2070
- **Debris disposal:** Deposit vegetative debris, metals, building materials, and household waste in the dumpsters at Chelsea Community Park or leave at the curb to be picked up by county crews.

SCOTT

- Residents who need **tetanus vaccinations** should contact the health department at 812-752-8455. Staff are on call to assist in other counties, if requested.

- Scott County residents who need to have their **property reassessed** should call the county assessor's office at 812-752-8436, or stop at the office located at 1 E. McClain Ave., #150, Scottsburg, IN 47170.
- Recovered **unidentified photos** and other items may be taken to the Scott County Recorder: 1 East McClain Ave, #100, M-F, 8:30-4:30, 812-752-8442.
- **Farmers** seeking assistance with debris removal and assistance repairing fences may get more information from the Scott County USDA FSA: 812-752-2269
- **Donations are being distributed at:**
 - Vienna Baptist Church, 11 West Leota Rd., Scottsburg, 812-752-3973
 - Scottsburg: Mid-America Science (MAS) Park, 821 S. Lake Road S., 812-752-9521
- **Debris disposal:** Residents may move vegetative debris (trees/limbs, etc) to roadside for pickup.

RIPLEY

- **ONE DAY ONLY HOLTON ONE STOP SHOP (OSS):** Representatives from multiple state agencies will be at the Holton Community Center, near 7032 West Versailles Street, Holton, IN 47023, on Wednesday (3/14) only from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. to provide recovery services and disaster mitigation information. A one-day Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) will be located at the same site (see below). The Sellersburg OSS is still operational at I-65 and Hwy 311 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Agencies represented will include: Indiana Department of Health; Indiana Department of Homeland Security; Indiana Department of Administration; Indiana Department of Child Services; American Red Cross; and Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
- **ONE DAY ONLY HOLTON DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER (DRC):** A DRC Team from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be co-located at the Holton Community Center on Wednesday (3/14) from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. to assist residents with disaster-related questions. Other one-day DRC locations will be announced when information is available.
- **State Road 62** near Friendship at the Ripley/Dearborn County is closed
- Debris from the **damaged school** in Holton came back negative for asbestos.
- The American Red Cross has opened a service center at the Holton Fire Department, located at 40 S. Marion Street, Holton. Health services, **caseworkers, and mental health services** are available at the service center.
- Ripley County residents needing a **property reassessment** may come into the office (812) 689-5656 located at 115 N. Main Street, Versailles, IN 47042 or fill out the online form at <http://www.ripleycounty.com/assessor/>
- Recovered **unidentified photos** and other items may be taken to the Ripley County Recorder: 115 N. Main Street, Versailles, M-F, 8-4, 812-689-5808
- **Farmers** seeking assistance with debris removal and fence repair may contact the Ripley County USDA FSA: 812-689-6410

WARRICK

- **Farmers** seeking assistance with debris removal and fence repair may contact the Warrick County USDA FSA: 812-897-2840
- Warrick County residents pursuing a **property reassessment** should call (812) 897-6125 before going to the assessor's office located at 1 County Sq. #280, Boonville, IN 47601. <http://www.warrickcounty.gov/warrickassessor>
- **Debris disposal:**
 - **Boonville:** Four dumpsters are set up at the landfill on 1111 S. Pelzer Road for debris. Vegetative waste should be dumped in the back of the landfill to be shredded into mulch.
 - **Newburgh:** Deposit debris into two dumpsters set up at the Newburgh Street Department. One dumpster is designated for debris and the other is for vegetative waste.

WASHINGTON

- Tornado survivors **needing assistance** from volunteers AND persons wanting to volunteer can call 812.967.4682.
- The health department is going door to door again Wednesday (3/14) and Saturday (3/17) in an effort to provide residents with **tetanus immunizations**. After Saturday, residents may continue to receive immunizations at the Washington County Health Department, 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 p.m, Monday through Friday. The department is located at 806 Martinsburg Rd., Salem, Ind. and can be reached at 812 883-5603 or 812/883-2349.
- Washington County residents may be eligible to file for **disaster petitions** (this is NOT the same as FEMA or state filings). This can be filed on real or personal property. The form can be obtained at the assessor's office or online at www.washingtoncounty.in.gov, or by calling 812-883-4000.
- Recovered **unidentified photos** and other items may be taken to the Washington County Recorder: 99 Public Square, Suite 100, M-F, 8-4, 812-883-4001
- **Donations are being distributed at:**
 - Pekin United Methodist Church, 244 S. Shorts Corner Cornet Road, 812-967-4682. Operating hours are 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Daisy Hill United Methodist Church, Daisy Hill and Knobb Road, 812-967-1231
- **Farmers** seeking assistance with debris removal and fence repair may contact the Washington County USDA FSA: 812-883-3006
- ***The Washington County Landfill, 2682 N. Highland Rd., Salem is accepting tornado related debris. It is the only site accepting tornado debris in Washington County.***

TEMPORARY EMERGENCY SERVICES

Free legal assistance to tornado survivors: The Indiana State Bar Association (ISBA) has established a toll-free legal aid line for survivors. Callers will be matched with local lawyers who have volunteered to provide free legal consultations on matters such as insurance claims, home repair contracts, landlord issues and replacing legal documents. The number is 1.800.266.2581. Please note that the toll-free number will operate Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30

p.m. (EDT). Messages can be left at any time.

Additional Legal Resources: Tornado survivors can also visit the Clark Legal Self Help Center on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Clark Circuit Court located at 501 E. Court Ave., Jeffersonville, IN 47130. For more information, visit www.clarklegalselfhelp.com.

This Saturday, March 17, from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., eight lawyers with the Southern Indiana Bar Association will be available to provide free legal assistance to tornado survivors. They will be located at the Adams Funeral Home in Henryville at 209 S. Ferguson Street, Henryville, IN 47126.

Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA): Psychological First Aid responders from FSSA's Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addictions are consolidating services at the Sellersburg One Stop Shop. Psychological First Aid responders will NOT be at the Holton OSS. ***Residents may call the IDMHA hotline at 1-866-679-4631 to get assistance with any issues related to recovery from the tornado.***

Free counseling services for tornado survivors: LifeSpring Community Mental Health Center is offering six (6) free counseling sessions to assist children, families, and individuals recover from distress related to the tornado. Persons interested in these services should call LifeSpring at (812) 280-2080 to schedule an appointment at one of their locations.

Recovered documents, keepsakes:

If you find a photo or other unidentifiable document, you may post an image of it on Facebook. <http://www.facebook.com/ReturningMemoriesToTornadoVictims> Likewise, if you are missing a photo or other document, you may want to periodically check this Facebook page.

Assistance for farmers:

USDA Farm Service Agency: Farmers in affected counties may apply for assistance for debris removal and fence repairs under the Emergency Conservation Program. Damage must have been more than \$1,000. Information may be obtained from your respective County agent.

Salvation Army: Caseworkers with the Salvation Army will be at the following locations next week to provide financial and other assistance for tornado survivors.

- Henryville: Sanitation Office on Main Street, Monday – Wednesday, noon – 6 p.m.
- Borden: Borden United Methodist Church, Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Pekin United Methodist Church, Thursday (3/16), 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

American Red Cross (ARC): Caseworkers with the ARC are available to meet with families and provide assistance packages at Country Lake Retreat, 815 Country Lake Road, Underwood.

Meal services:

- Salvation Army canteens and mobile food units are in Borden, Henryville, Marysville and Pekin.
- Salvation Army meals are also available at:

- Monroe Twp. Fire Department in Henryville
- Tent site in Marysville

United Way 2-1-1 service:

Citizens who need supplies or services (such as debris removal from private property) may call 2-1-1. This free service provides confidential information and referrals.

Assistance for citizens with developmental disabilities: Contact Arc of Indiana at 317-224-0276.

VOLUNTEER AND RELIEF EFFORTS

Volunteer Reception Center: The INVOAD Volunteer Reception Center continues to take registrations from individuals at least 16 years of age who want to volunteer to help. Volunteers will be called as needed, for weeks or months to come, based on skills registered. Register by calling 502-599-8593 or online at www.metro unitedway.org.

Drop off location: Donated items should be dropped off at Adventist Community Services, 700 Patrol Road, Jeffersonville between 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Follow the receiving signs to Gate 2. The donation management phone numbers are 812-287-0090 and 812-287-0026.

- *The following items are needed: Garbage Cans; Chain saw sharpeners (files); Coffee and coffee makers; Pancake mix and syrup; Hard garden rakes; Wheelbarrows; Mailboxes; Bug repellent;*
- The warehouse can also receive donated building materials (2x4s, drywall, etc.) and power tools.
- NOT NEEDED: Perishable/refrigerated/frozen items/clothing.
- Household items and cleaning items will be needed in the near future.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

TIPS FOR STATE & FEMA DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS: The most common error in disaster relief applications is incorrect contact information. Please double check to make sure that you have entered the correct contact information. Remember to record and safeguard your FEMA registration number. You may add information later on to your FEMA application or check on the status of your claim if you know your registration number.

Fraud Warning: Be aware that legitimate representatives from FEMA, the State and insurance agencies will not send emails requesting sensitive information. Replying to such emails could result in identity theft. Similarly, legitimate damage assessors will not ask you for payment for assessment services.

Federal grants available: Residents of Clark, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott, Warrick and Washington counties who sustained losses from the storms Feb. 29-March 3 are eligible to apply for FEMA assistance. Even if you have already called local emergency management officials or 211 with

damage reports, you **MUST** apply with FEMA to be considered for federal disaster assistance. There are several ways to apply:

Apply online anytime at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

Call 800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY at 800-462-7585. Those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS) may call 800-621-3362. The toll-free telephone numbers operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice. Multilingual operators are available to assist with the application process.

By Smartphone or tablet, use m.fema.gov, or on Androids, download the FEMA App market.android.com/details?id=gov.fema.mobile.android. (Search the “market” for FEMA)

Jefferson County: Residents can apply for FEMA assistance online at the Hanover library, 121 Scenic Dr., Hanover M – F, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Call 812-866-7165 for more information.

Ripley County: Residents can apply for FEMA assistance online in the Ripley County Incident Command Vehicle which will be parked near the Holton Community Center Monday and Tuesday from 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Disaster recovery website: emergency.in.gov

Apply to FEMA www.fema.gov or (800) 621-FEMA (3362)

Help and info: Call 2-1-1 (or 317-926-4357)

Red Cross: 800.696.3873

Crisis counseling: 1-866-679-4631

Find buried wires and pipes: Call 8-1-1 (landline only) or 800-382-5544

Twitter: @IDHS

Facebook: Search for “Indiana Department of Homeland Security”

Updates: Text “follow IDHS” to 40404

General emergency preparedness info: GetPrepared.in.gov

Travel Information: <http://indot.carsprogram.org> or 800-261-ROAD (7623)

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